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11/07/01 2161

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: JARMAN et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/862,917

EXAMINER:

FILING DATE: 5/22/01

ART UNIT: 2161

TITLE: A UTILITY METERING SYSTEM INCORPORATING A
TRANSACTION AUTHORISATION SYSTEM

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 708P009508-US(PAR)

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SEP 05 2001

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

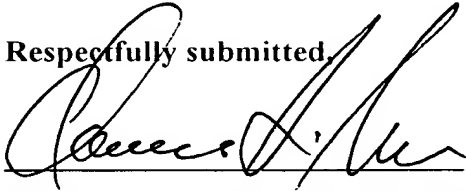
The following information is being disclosed to the Patent and Trademark Office as information that may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before receipt of a first Office Action on the above-identified patent application. Thus, a certification under 37 CFR 1.97 (e) or fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (p) is not required for the information herein to be considered.

The above-identified patent application claims priority to United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB 0012392.7 filed 22 May 2000. Applicants' attorney encloses a copy of a United Kingdom Search Report issued on the priority United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB 0012392.7. The Search Report cited United States Patent No. 6,039,247 and European Patent Application No. EP 0863492 A1.

Copies of the United Kingdom Search Report and the cited references are enclosed together with PTO-Form 1449.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the attached Information Disclosure Statement, United Kingdom Search Report, PTO-Form 1449 and references are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

29 August 2001

Date

Deborah J. Clark

Name of Person Making Deposit



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0012392.7
Claims searched: 1-28

Examiner: Kalim Yasseen
Date of search: 26 June 2001

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

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Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.S): G4V (VAK, VMA, VMB, VMX)

Int Cl (Ed.7): G06F (17/60); G07F (7/08, 7/10, 15/00)

Other: Online (EPODOC, JAPIO, WPI)

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
A	EP 0 863 492 A1 (BAUER) a system for cashless operation of prepayment utility metering device having means for reading a credit card, see online (WPI) abstract.	
A	US 6 039 247 A (XICO) a method of transferring monetary values on to a device such a as a meter having a unique identifier number	

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION FORM FOR
PATENT APPLICATION
(FORM PTO-1449)**

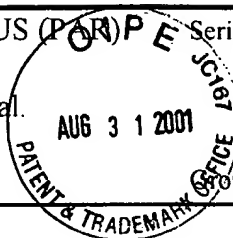
(Substitute)

Docket No.: 708P009508-US (P)

Serial No.: 09/862,917

Applicant(s): JARMAN et al.

Filing Date: 5/22/01

**U.S. PATENTS**

Initials	Patent Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing date
	6,039,247	3/21/00	Reccia et al.	235	379	12/19/97

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Name	Translation? Yes/No/n/a
	EP 0863492 A1	9/9/98	Europe	Bauer	*

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Title, Author, Date, Pages, Etc., if known)

	* English translation of the Abstract attached.

Examiner's Signature:

Date Considered:

Initial if reference was considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP. Mark through citation if not considered.
Include a copy of this citation form with your next correspondence to the Applicant(s).

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